



# UB Highlights

Vol. 10, No. 21

News & Events for December 15-31, 2013

## Purple Knights Home Athletic Events December 15-31, 2013



### Men's Basketball

Dec. 18 (Weds.), 7 p.m., St. Thomas Aquinas @  
Hubbell Gym

### Women's Basketball

Dec. 18 (Weds.), 5 p.m., St. Thomas Aquinas @  
Hubbell Gym

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Final grades due, graduates and undergraduates  
Monday, December 16

## Holiday Schedule

Christmas Eve Day, Tuesday, December 24, 2013  
Administrative Offices Closed

Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25, 2013  
Administrative Offices Closed

New Year's Day, Wednesday, January 1, 2014  
Administrative Offices Closed

## You might have missed . . .

As shown in the photo below, on Wednesday, November 30, UB Trustee Robert Berchem, UB President Neil Salonen, Connecticut Governor Dannel P. Malloy, UB Trustee Ernest Trefz, Joan Trefz, and Co-Chairman of UB's Board of Trustees Frank Zullo lifted their shovels and officially broke ground for UB's newly named Ernest C. Trefz School of Business.

On a blustery, very cold day Governor Malloy, President Salonen, Chairman Zullo, and Business School Dean Lloyd Gibson warmed the assembled guests outside the construction site by delivering remarks. Next, 33-year Trustee Trefz spoke. He said: "I am honored and honestly humbled that the UB business school will carry my name. I will be here to support the school and its mission in every way I can."

A ribbon cutting will be scheduled in spring 2014, and the building will reopen after construction is complete.



## LATE BUT GREAT

*This information arrived too late for the last Highlights issue, but there is still time to attend:*

## Where Angels Play Dedication Wednesday, Dec. 11, 4 p.m.

A new playground in honor of Josephine Grace Gay, who was killed last year at Sandy Hook Elementary School, in Newtown, will be opened with a ribbon cutting. The playground is part of Where Angels Play, an initiative of volunteers from Connecticut, New Jersey, and New York coastline communities to build 26 playgrounds named after victims of the Newtown tragedy. UB student volunteers from Lambda Sigma Upsilon fraternity, Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, and the Alternative Spring Break and the WEACTION groups have joined with Bridgeport Firefighters Local 834 in helping to construct the recreation space, at Section 6 in Seaside Park.

Construction began at 8 a.m. on Friday, December 6. Refreshments for the volunteers is being provided by UB's Sodexo Dining Services and Lorenzo's Restaurant.

For more about Where Angels Play, please visit  
<http://www.thesandygroundproject.org/>.

# UB ACHIEVEMENTS & HONORS

## STUDENTS & ALUMNI

### ATHLETICS

**Julia Hansson**, senior goalkeeper, was named November 25 to the 2013 NCAA Division II Women's Soccer Capital One National Academic All-America First Team. In addition to outstanding soccer performance, she maintains a 3.88 GPA in a Health Sciences major. She is the first UB athlete to achieve these First Team All-America honors.

**Julia Hansson**, goalkeeper, **Danielle Puddefoot**, forward, and **Tabea Rauschenberger**, defender, were selected November 25 as 2013 Daktronics, Inc. All-East Region soccer performers, in voting among sports information directors at NCAA Div. II institutions. All three were also named to the All-ECC First Team. Hansson was this season's ECC Goalkeeper of the Year, and Rauschenberger was ECC Defensive Player of the Year and Rookie of the Year. On December 4 the trio were also named to the 2013 Daktronics National All-America Teams.

**Clayton Ulmer**, senior defender, and **Lee Middleton**, graduate defender, were named November 25 to the First Team and Second Team, respectively, of the 2013 Daktronics, Inc. All-East Region Soccer Teams. Both were previously selected for the First Team All-ECC this season.

**Biljana Savic** and **Ying Shen**, juniors, were named to the 2013 Daktronics Women's Volleyball All-East Region First Team, and junior **Larissa Oliveira** and sophomore **Sarah Rosa** were named to the Second Team All-East Region on December 3.

### CPIA

**Ricky Grasso**, a UB mass communications major studying in Rome (Italy), launched a photography project expanding the idea of the Sandy Hook Ducks, where school-based police officers placed toy ducks in the Sandy Hook Elementary School lobby, with the mission of "bringing smiles to the faces of the kids and adults that need as much to smile about as we can give." Ricky distributed ducks around Rome and photographed people's reactions. He is the son of Lori Grasso, of UB's Human Resources Department. To learn more about the ducks of Rome, see <http://newtown.patch.com/groups/goodnews/p/photos-the-sandy-hook-ducks-tour-rome>.

## FACULTY & STAFF

### ARTS & SCIENCES

**David W. Kraft**, professor of mathematics and physics, presented a paper entitled "Secondary Fusion Reactions in the Mechanical Adiabatic Compression of a Dense Plasma" at the 16th International Conference of Emerging Nuclear Energy Systems held in Madrid (Spain), in May.

### CPIA

**Mohammed Al-Azdee**, assistant professor of mass communication, served as chair and discussant on the "Understanding Non-State Actors" panel at the 2013 Annual Conference of International Studies Association Northeast (ISA-NE), in Providence, November 8-9. On two other panels, he presented papers, "The Syrian Crisis: Three Cards Russia Can Play against the United States" and "Mediated Policy Effects of Foreign Governments on Iraqi Independent Media after 2003." Al-Azdee was also elected a member of the Governing Council of ISA-NE at the meeting.

### ENGINEERING

**Linfeng Zhang**, associate professor of electrical engineering, with UB co-authors Professor **Lawrence V. Hmurcik** and Engineering alumnus **Nicolae Gari '10**, has published "Energy Management in a Micro-Grid with Distributed Energy Resources," in the journal *Energy Conversion and Management*. The article analyzes small, smart power grids and their ability to conserve energy and serve the public in a safe and reliable manner, better than the national grid now in place.

**Did we miss something?** *UB Highlights* is published twice monthly during the academic year and monthly in January, June, and July to inform the University community about UB events and achievements. To comment or to list your event or award, e-mail [Rebecca.Salonen@bridgeport.edu](mailto:Rebecca.Salonen@bridgeport.edu), or call x4988.